

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE 5152

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 088789

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL RPT LUSAKA 1184 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO CAPE TOWN, DAR ES
SALAAM, GABORONE, LAGOS, LONDON, MAPUTO, PRETORIA & USUN NEW YORK
DTD 06 APR 78

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1184

EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH UK US

SUBJ: RHODESIA: TRAVEL AND MEETING PLANS

REF: LONDON 5308, LUSAKA 1167, LUSAKA 1177, LONDON 5297

1. AS OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT, NKOMO PLANNED TO LEAVE THURSDAY
MORNING FOR MAPUTO TO AWAIT MUGABE THERE. HE HAD STILL
HAD NO CONTACT WITH THE ZANU LEADER. WHETHER OR NOT MUGABE
SHOWS UP IN MAPUTO, NKOMO INTENDS TO RETURN TO LUSAKA ON
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SATURDAY, APRIL 8. HE INSISTS ON MAINTAINING HIS PREVIOUS PLANS
FOR A MEETING IN LUSAKA WITH MUGABE WHICH HAD FOR SOME TIME
BEEN PLANNED FOR APRIL 13. HE STILL HOPES TO GET MUGABE HERE
ON THE TWELFTH, PROCEED WITH THE PF MEETING ON THE THIRTEENTH,
AND HE IS STICKING TO HIS PROPOSAL TO HOLD THE MALTA II MEETING
IN LUSAKA INSTEAD OF DAR EXCEPT THAT NOW HE WOULD LIKE IT TO
BEGIN ON THE FOURTEENTH AND CARRY ON THROUGH THE FIFTEENTH.

HE SAYS THAT HE MUST LEAVE ON THE SIXTEENTH TO MAINTAIN A PREVIOUS COMMITMENT (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS A VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS).

2. NKOMO FEELS WHOLE SCHEDULE IS BEING RUSHED. IF THE ABOVE PROPOSAL IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO VANCE AND OWEN, THEN HE PROPOSES TO POSTPONE MALTA II UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND, I.E., APRIL 25-26. SO FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED, THAT MEETING COULD BE HELD ANYWHERE. THE ALL PARTIES MEETING WOULD THEN HAVE TO SLIP INTO MAY.

3. OBVIOUSLY PLANS ARE STILL IN A VERY FLUID STATE. MUGABE'S CONCERNS HAVE NOT BEEN FACTORED IN AT ALL YET. I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD KEEP PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF DATES AND PLACES TO A MINIMUM UNTIL WE CAN GET THE PARTICIPANTS TIED DOWN.

4. GRAHAM AND STEEL ARRIVE LUSAKA THURSDAY MORNING AFTER DEPARTURE COMMERCIAL FLIGHT FOR MAPUTO. THE ONLY WAY FOR US TO GET THERE NOW IS VIA ATTACHE AIRCRAFT. WE HAVE CONTACTED PRETORIA AND REQUESTED PLANE TO ARRIVE LUSAKA THURSDAY AFTERNOON, EXPECTING TO LEAVE FRIDAY MORNING FOR MAPUTO IN THE HOPES OF BEING ABLE TO SEE MUGABE AND NKOMO THERE. SHOULD MUGABE NOT TURN UP AND NKOMO RETURN TO LUSAKA, WE WOULD THEN HAVE TO FACE DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO GO ON TO SALISBURY ANYWAY.

5. IN THE EVENT WE DO SUCEED IN ENGAGING NKOMO AND MUGABE IN
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DISCUSSIONS OF TIMING AND LOCATION FOR THE MEETINGS, IT WOULD HELP TO HAVE AN IDEA OF SECRETARY VANCE'S SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO IMPRESS ON THEM THE DIFFICULTY OF SWITCHING AROUND TIMES. LOW UNQUOTE VANCE

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